the importance of bringing the political party leaders into a broad national consensus to enable Nepal to overcome the political and economic challenges confronting it. In this context, he called for immediate release of political leaders and lifting of restrictions on their constitutional rights and removal of censorship on media.

(c) and (d) Following the dismissal of the multi-party Government and imposition of emergency in Nepal on February 1,2005, the issue of military supplies to Nepal has been under continuous review taking into account the evolving situation in that country. In view of the current disturbed conditions in Nepal, no military supplies by Government of India have been delivered since February 1.

Shortage of skilled labour

†1756. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the need of skilled labours is being felt in certain industries after liberalization;

(b) if so, the names of these industries and the estimated shortage of skilled labour in each of them;

(c) whether it is also a fact that priority should be given to encourage their health, education and industrial training instead of making a law to increase their efficiency; and

(d) if so, Government's reaction in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K CHANDRA SEKHAR RAO): (a) and (b) Industry needs skilled labourer, the requirement varies from time to time and from industry to industry. In order to provide skilled labour force as per need of the industry, Government is implementing skill-training programmes through various institutions.

(c) and (d) Health, education, industrial training and efficiency are equally important. Government is taking various steps to provide vocational training, skill upgradation of workers as well as promoting their health and education through various National Programmes.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.